Wynn R. Walker, Ph.D. Academia



When it comes to the subject of surface irrigation, Dr. Walker, who served as head of the Biological and Irrigation Engineering department at USU for 15 years, literally wrote the book – actually, an internationally recognized text, software for the simulation and design of such systems, and now a series of engineering short courses being distributed electronically with video lectures in English, Spanish, and Arabic. Utahns, of course, are well acquainted with his work in automating irrigation control structures on the Sevier River, optimizing the use of that precious resource and conserving vast quantities of water in the process, but in fact his expertise has been tapped by bodies including the United Nations and the World Bank to improve surface irrigation projects from Morocco to Thailand. Although his publications number over 200 and his awards are numerous, perhaps Dr. Walker's greatest legacy are his over 50 graduate students who today make water policy and management decisions affecting the lives of millions on five continents.